

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
12 April 2001 (12.04.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/24780 A2(51) International Patent Classification: A61K 9/52,
31/4439Natco House, Road No. 2, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500
033 (IN).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/IN00/00079

(22) International Filing Date: 25 August 2000 (25.08.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data: 968/MAS/99 1 October 1999 (01.10.1999) IN

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NATCO
PHARMA LIMITED (IN/IN); Natco House, Road No. 2,
Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500 033 (IN).(81) Designated States (national): AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ,
BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK,
DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL,
IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU,
LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT,
RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA,
UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian
patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European
patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE,
IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG,
CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— Without international search report and to be republished
upon receipt of that report.(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): VENKATESWARA
RAO, Pavuluri (IN/IN); Manager R & D (F), Natco
Pharma Limited, Natco House, Road No. 2, Banjara
Hills, Hyderabad 500 033 (IN). KHADGAPATHI, Podili
(IN/IN); Director - Technical, Natco Pharma Limited.For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

WO 01/24780 A2

(54) Title: AN IMPROVED PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITION AND A PROCESS FOR ITS PREPARATION

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to an improved pharmaceutical composition, in the form of a soft gel capsule resistant to digestive juice. The composition of the present invention is made up of gelatin and an enteric polymer in the form of free acid or its salts, containing a benzimidazole derivative used in the treatment of duodenal ulcers, solubilised and/or suspended in a liquid or semisolid medium, comprising of a hydrophobic carrier, an alkaline inert reacting material and a surface active agent and/or a solubilising agent. The present invention also relates to a method for preparing the above said pharmaceutical composition.